

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, second full paragraph, replace as follows

(A copy of page 4 showing the changes marked in red is attached hereto):

C¹
--Next, in an image joining section 6, the images (serving as input signals), which are corrected by the image correcting sections 17a to 17c, are joined to be a wide-angle image as shown in FIG. 20. Then, the joined image is output to a monitor 7, a printer 8 or a storage medium 9.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 11, 13 and 21, as follows:

1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
image input means for getting a plurality of image parts
dividing one composition such that the image parts have
overlapping areas, each having the same image of an object in the
5 overlapping area as in the overlapping area of the next image
part;

C²
correction parameter setting means for setting a correction
parameter necessary to correct at least distortion of said
plurality of image parts generated in each overlap area or a
10 difference between the image parts, said correction parameter
setting means being allowed to be manually operated by a user to
set the correction parameter;

image correcting means for correcting at least one image
part of said plurality of image parts in accordance with said set

15 correction parameter to eliminate at least distortion of said plurality of image parts generated in each overlap area or the difference between the image parts;

image joining means for sequentially joining the plurality of image parts corrected by said image correcting means in said
20 overlap area to restore said one composition;

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image display means for displaying at least said plurality of image parts input by said image input means or said image parts corrected by said image correction means; and

optical parameter setting means for determining, as an
25 optimal value, the correction parameter set by said correction parameter setting means, when it is judged by the user from display by said display means that correction is sufficiently performed by said image correction means.

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~~11. (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising correction parameter storing means for storing one or a plurality sets of said correction parameter used in correcting said image in connection with the name of the
5 imaging apparatus used to take the image, and said correction parameter setting means selects a desired set of correction parameters from the correction parameters.~~

13. (Amended) An image processing method comprising:

an image input step of getting a plurality of image parts
dividing one composition such that the image parts have
overlapping areas, each having the same image of an object in the
overlapping area as in the overlapping area of the next image
5 part;

a correction parameter setting step of setting a correction
parameter necessary to correct at least image distortion or image
difference occurring in the overlapping areas of each image part,
said correction parameter setting step being allowed to be
10 manually operated by a user to set the correction parameter;

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an image correcting step of correcting at least one of said
plurality of image parts in accordance with said correction
parameters, thereby to correct distortion of images or image
difference occurring in at least the overlapping area of each
15 image part;

a composition restoring step of restoring said composition
by sequentially combining said plurality of image parts
corrected, one to another, with overlapping the same at
overlapping areas; and

20 an image displaying step for displaying at least said
plurality of image parts input or said plurality of image parts
corrected; and

an optimal parameter setting step for determining, as an
optical value, the correction parameter set by said correction
25 parameter setting step, when it is judged by the user from

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~~display during said image displaying step that correction is~~
~~sufficiently performed by said image correcting step.~~

21. (Amended) A recording medium recording computer programs for restoring an image by combining a plurality of image parts divided from one composition, each image part having the same image of an object in an overlapping area, said recording medium recording:

5 an image inputting program for inputting said plurality of image parts;

C5

a correction parameter setting program for setting correction parameters indispensable for correcting image distortion or image difference occurring in at least the

10 overlapping areas of each image part, said correction parameter setting program being allowed to be manually operated by a user to set the correction parameter;

an image correcting program for correcting at least one of said plurality of image parts in accordance with said correction

15 parameters, thereby to correct distortion of images or image difference occurring in at least the overlapping areas of each image part;

a composition restoring program for restoring said composition by sequentially combining said plurality of image

20 parts corrected, one to another, with overlapping the same at overlapping areas; and

an image displaying program for displaying said plurality of images input, or at least one of said plurality of image parts corrected; and

25 an optimal parameter setting program for determining, as an optimal value, the correction parameter set by said correction parameter setting program, when it is judged by the user from display of said displaying program that correction is sufficiently performed by said image correction program.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Submitted herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsperson requesting changes to Figs. 1, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23A, 23B and 23C as required by the Examiner in the Office Action.